**America’s Westward Expansion**

Discussion Due:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Directions***: Based on the reading *Born Modern: An Overview of the West* and the station activity completed in class, be prepared to discuss your general observations and answers to the below two questions. Your participation in the discussion will be graded based on your argument and use of specific evidence from both the stations and White article.

1. Evaluate the role the federal government had in building/settling the West. Remember to reference specific evidence from the resources.

2. How does American expansion/settlement in the West fit within the concepts of individualism vs. collectivism?

Definition of **individualism**- In economics, it is the doctrine that individuals best serve the public interest by pursuing their own self-interest.

Definition of **collectivism-** In a collectivist system, power should be in the hands of the people as a whole, not in the hands of a few powerful folks. Collectivism is the opposite of individualism. Ideally, in a collectivist society, decisions benefit all the people.